

# **Policy Board Minutes**

**July 13, 2005**

**Conference Room A**

**One Capitol Hill**

**Providence, RI**

## **MEMBERS/DESIGNEES PRESENT:**

**Colonel Steven Pare, Chair**

**Public Defender John Hardiman**

**Ellen Alexander, for Director A.T. Wall**

**Mike Burk, for Director Patricia Martinez**

**Chief Peter Brousseau, RI Police Chiefs Association**

**Gary Alexander for Director Jane Hayward**

**Bob O'Neil**

**Deb DeBare**

**Fire Marshal Irving Owens**

**Jonathan Houston**

## **OTHER GUESTS PRESENT:**

**Tom Connell, U.S. Attorney's Office**

## **RI JUSTICE COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT:**

**Tom Mongeau, Executive Director**

**Gina Caruolo**

**Gail Pereira**

**Kathleen Loiselle**

## **1. Welcome**

**Colonel Pare welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 9:03 AM.**

**Introductions were made. Colonel Pare noted there was not a quorum present, and with respect to passing motions, he would acquire the necessary votes by telephone.**

## **2. Approval of March 3, 2005 Minutes**

**There being no changes, Chief Brousseau made a motion:**

**TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 3, 2005  
MEETING AS PRESENTED.**

**The motion was seconded by Fire Marshal Owens and was unanimously passed.**

## **3. Discussion/Approval of FY 05 Paul Coverdell Forensic Improvement Grant**

**Gina Caruolo advised that the FY 05 Paul Coverdell Forensic**

Improvement Grant has two parts this year. The first part is the FY 05 Formula Allocation of \$82,639. Ms. Caruolo explained that these grant funds are used to improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services to include services provided by labs operated by states and local units of government. She noted that in the past the Department of Health and RI State Crime Lab have used the funds toward obtaining national accreditation. This year they will begin to buy equipment for the Department of Health laboratories. The purchases include a Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer @ \$65,926; two B.E.A.S.T. system barcode printers @ \$2,200; two B.E.A.S.T. Cordless Barcode Scanners @ \$3,390; a B.E.A.S.T. Signature Capture Terminal @ \$660; and a DELL Latitude D610 Laptop Computer @ \$2,200. The equipment purchases total \$74,376.00. Ms. Caruolo pointed out that the Justice Commission will take 10% of the grant or \$8,263 for administrative fees.

Ms. Caruolo also advised that she has applied for the second part of the grant which is an FY05 Competitive Grant of up to \$95,000. If the grant is approved, \$85,500 will be allocated to the RI Medical Examiner for forensic science improvement beyond what can be accomplished with the formula allocation. Ms. Caruolo noted that NIJ expects that 50% of these awards will be used to improve medical examiner services. The Medical Examiner's office will pursue national accreditation with the funds. Ms. Caruolo noted that if the grant is obtained, ten percent of the grant or up to \$9500 will be taken by the Justice Commission for administrative fees.

**Fire Marshal Owens voiced his support of the FY 05 Paul Coverdell grant. He explained that the purchase of a Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer would help differentiate between various types of flammable liquids.**

**Following this discussion, Fire Marshal Owens made a motion:**

**TO ACCEPT THE FUNDING PLAN AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FY 05  
PAUL COVERDELL FORENSIC IMPROVEMENT  
GRANT AS PRESENTED.**

**The motion was seconded by Public Defender Hardiman and was unanimously passed.**

#### **4. Discussion/Approval of FY 05 National Criminal History Improvement Program**

**Gina Caruolo reported that the FY 05 National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) grant has been reduced. This year's grant award is \$269,000 and two years ago the grant award was \$600,000. Ms. Caruolo explained that the NCHIP grant supports state activities for the establishment of records systems and the collection and use of criminal history and related records. She pointed out that the NCHIP grant may be used for equipment enhancements in state**

criminal history databases and the automation and update of existing records. For FY 05 it is recommended that the NCHIP grant be used for equipment purchases at the Attorney General's Office, State Police for RILETS telecommunications equipment and Livescan machines for local police departments. The RI Justice Commission will take 10% of the award for \$26,900 for administrative costs. The RISP will receive \$95,100 in support of a RILETS computer technicians salary and benefits, and \$100,000 in RILETS software upgrades for a total of \$195,100. In addition, local police agencies will receive \$47,000 to purchase Livescan machines, and the Attorney General's office will receive \$25,000 to complete RONCO modifications. Ms. Caruolo pointed out that within the next 1 ½ years Rhode Island will be a totally digital fingerprint state.

Following Ms. Caruolo's remarks, Public Defender Hardiman made a motion:

**TO ACCEPT THE FUNDING PLAN AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR THE FY 05 NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY IMPROVEMENT  
PROGRAM (NCHIP) AS PRESENTED.**

The motion was seconded by Ellen Alexander and passed with one recusal from Colonel Pare noted.

## **5. Discussion/Approval of FY 05 Statistical Analysis Center Grant**

**Gina Caruolo advised that the FY 05 Statistical Analysis Center Grant award is \$50,000. She pointed out that this award partially pays her salary. In addition, Ms. Caruolo stated that she will continue the RIJC's webpage development and maintenance, continue to monitor the Juvenile Detention Compliance Monitoring contract, continue Sex Offender research which began under the Management of Sex Offenders in the Community Planning grant, continue with Project Safe Neighborhood Research in conjunction with Roger Williams University regarding City of Providence homicides, continue work with Deaths in Custody Monitoring, continue the yearly Law Enforcement Technology Survey, and administer the Traffic Stops Statistics Data Collection/Analysis Contract.**

**Following Ms. Caruolo's remarks, Fire Marshal Owens made a motion:**

**TO ACCEPT THE FY 05 STATE JUSTICE STATISTICS  
(SJS) AWARD AND FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS  
AS PRESENTED.**

**The motion was seconded by Jonathan Houston and was unanimously passed.**

## **6. Discussion/Approval of Traffic Stop Study**

**Gina Caruolo stated that as a result of a legislative mandate starting in July 2004, the RISP and local police departments must participate in a Traffic Stop Statistics data collection effort. She added that the RIJC is charged with monitoring this effort and has contracted with Northeastern University to analyze data and complete a report. Ms. Caruolo stated that Northeastern University was provided with \$100,000 in FY 05 and will receive an additional \$100,000 in FY 06. She noted that data collection will end on September 30th of this year. This year's award will allow the RIJC to finish the data collection and for Northeastern University to write a report. Additionally, they will complete road surveys to capture what the population of the state looks like in the northern and southern areas of the state.**

**Public Defender Hardiman inquired if there will be on-going monitoring once the traffic study concludes.**

**Colonel Pare noted that there will no longer be a mandated effort.**

**Chief Brousseau noted that some Chiefs would like another study done in the future, although the rank and file have some criticisms of**

**the current effort.**

**Colonel Pare inquired if the Traffic Stop Study for \$100,000 was a budget item in FY 06 Justice Commission's General Revenue budget. He asked what the narrative states the money should be applied to.**

**Gina Caruolo responded that there is not a specific line item in the budget for the Traffic Stop Statistics study. She noted that last year a Purchase Order was created for \$200,000 to complete a 2 year study with \$100,000 spent in FY 05, and the other \$100,000 to be spent in FY 06.**

**Following this discussion, Chief Brousseau made a motion:**

**TO ACCEPT THE FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR THE FY 06 TRAFFIC STOPS STATISTICS STUDY  
AS PRESENTED.**

**The motion was seconded by Deb DeBare and was unanimously passed.**

## **7. Discussion/Approval of FY 05 Project Safe Neighborhood Grant**

**Gail Pereira advised that Congress did not provide funding for an FY 05 Project Safe Neighborhoods (a comprehensive gun violence reduction strategy), but did authorize \$9.4 million dollars to various**



**districts. For FY 05, the District of Rhode Island is slated to receive a continuation grant of program funding in the amount of \$65,015. Ms. Pereira noted that in January 2004 the Office of the US Attorney certified the RI Justice Commission as their fiscal agent for this grant.**

**The US Attorney's office has included the City of Providence, the Providence Police Department and the RI Department of Attorney General in their planning session. Ms. Pereira pointed out that this is a continuation grant, and funds will not be allocated for new projects. She noted that the RI Justice Commission will take 10% or \$6,501.50 for administrative costs. The proposed budget awards the City of Providence – Streetworkers Program, \$19,504.50; the Providence Police Department (Gun Unit) - \$19,504.50; and the Dept. of Attorney General (Community Gun Prosecutor) - \$19,504.50.**

**Ms. Pereira noted that Tom Connell from the US Attorney's Office was in attendance to answer any questions.**

**Following Ms. Pereira's comments, Deb DeBare made a motion:**

**TO ACCEPT THE REPORT AND FUNDING  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FY 05  
PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS GRANT  
(CONTINUING FUNDING), AS PRESENTED.**

**The motion was seconded by Fire Marshal Owens and was unanimously passed.**

**At the conclusion of the meeting, Colonel Pare reiterated his intention to acquire additional Policy Board votes by telephone.**

## **8. New Business**

**There was no new business discussed.**

## **9. Adjourn**

**There being no further business to discuss, Chief Brousseau made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Fire Marshal Owens and was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.**

**Subsequent to the meeting Colonel Pare contacted Presiding Justice Joseph Rodgers, Chief Vincent Vespia, and Wayne Ferrington on behalf of Dr. David Gifford and acquired the necessary votes to obtain a quorum. It is noted that Wayne Ferrington recused himself from the vote on the FY 05 Paul Coverdell Forensics Improvement Grant.**

**Respectfully submitted, Approved:   Approved:**

**Kathleen M. Loiselle   Colonel Steven M. Pare   Thomas Mongeau**

**Recording Secretary   Chair   RIJC Exec. Director**